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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,366	09/18/2001	Toru Yamada	P/126-209	8343

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EXAMINER

HANEY, MATTHEW J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2613

DATE MAILED: 11/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/955,366

Applicant(s)

YAMADA, TORU

Examiner

Matthew Haney

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Page 14, 3rd Paragraph which starts as "Thus, when image data are displayed in a lower resolution" is unclear and needs to be revised.

A suggestion would be --Thus, when image data are displayed in a lower resolution, the luminance component is decoded at half resolution and the color-difference is decoded at its original resolution the ratio of Y:U:V becomes equal to 4:2:2. As a result....--

Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 6 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent

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granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, 8, 10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Boyce (US 6,262,770).

As for claims 1, 8, and 15, Boyce teaches of a plurality of decoding units each of which decodes the compressed moving picture in a resolution which is different from resolutions of the other decoding units (Column 18, Lines 22-27); a display size obtaining unit which obtains a display size of image displayed on the display device (Note: size is "selected" (i.e. obtained) to be $\frac{1}{4}$ the size of the main picture, Column 18, Lines 50-54); a decoding unit which selects a decoding unit to decode the compressed moving picture, from the plurality of decoding units according to the display size obtained by the display size obtaining unit (Note: $\frac{1}{4}$ size is selected therefore the decoder is selected that uses $\frac{1}{4}$ size blocks (2x2 pixel), Column 18, Lines 50-54).

As for claims 3 and 10, Boyce teaches of selected decoding unit decodes the compressed moving picture in a resolution which is lower than an original resolution of the compressed moving picture, the decoding unit decodes them by reducing an order of IDCT (Inverse Discrete Cosine Transformation) and performing motion compensation according to the reduced order of IDCT (Column 18, Lines 55-65).

3. Claims 7, 14, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Prabhakar (US 5,832,120).

As for claims 7, 14, and 16, Prabhakar teaches of a luminance decoding unit

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which decodes luminance component in the compressed moving picture (Column 4, Lines 1-31); a color-difference decoding unit which decodes color-difference component in the compressed moving picture, wherein the luminance decoding unit decodes the compressed moving picture in a resolution which is lower than a resolution used by the color-difference decoding unit (Note: the luminance is decoded using a ratio that has a larger color-difference to luminance than is normal in the image, (i.e. goes from 4:2:0 to 4:2:2 or 4:4:4), Column 3, Lines 54-67, Column 4, Lines 1-31).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyce (US 6,262,770).

As for claims 4 and 11, most of the limitations of the claims have been discussed in the above rejection of claims 1 and 8. Boyce does not explicitly teach of including a display size storing device which stores the display size used when the previous decoding process is completed, wherein the decoding unit selecting unit selects, at the beginning of current decoding process, one of the decoding units according to the display size stored in the display size storing device, however, Boyce

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does mention of selecting a size and that size remains until another size is selected (Column 18, Lines 50-54, Column 19, 24-31). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to store this size value in order to have the information available continuously instead of retrieving (or selecting) it after each decoding process. (Official Notice)

6. Claims 2, 5, 9, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyce (US 6,262,770) in view of Pearlstein (US 6,370,192).

As for claims 2 and 9, most of the limitations of the claims have been discussed in the above rejection of claims 1 and 8. Boyce does not explicitly teach of the decoding unit selecting unit newly selects the decoding unit whenever the selected decoding unit decodes a predetermined amount of the compressed moving pictures, however, Pearlstein does (Note: predetermined amount of data is anything between the I or P frames that are determined to need a different resolution, Column 17, Lines 34-67 and Column 18, Lines 1-17). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to set a predetermined amount of data because this would allow the invention to change resolutions after a set frames instead of waiting for the entire video stream to be decoded.

As for claims 5 and 12, most of the limitations of the claims have been discussed in the above rejection of claims 2 and 9. Boyce does not explicitly teach of the moving picture is compressed based on MPEG and the decoding unit selecting unit selects the decoding unit for each GOP (Group of Picture), however, Pearlstein does

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(Note: predetermined amount of data is anything between the I or P frames that are determined to need a different resolution and as is well known in the art, a GOP can consist of any number of I, P, and B frames, Column 17, Lines 34-67 and Column 18, Lines 1-17). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to set a predetermined amount of data as a GOP because this would allow the invention to change resolutions after at set frames (GOP) instead of waiting for the entire video stream to be decoded.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew Haney whose telephone number is 703-305-4915. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (7-4:30), Every Other Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 703-305-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Matthew Haney
Examiner
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